

# CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS *in California*

United States Department of Agriculture    Natural Resources Conservation Service    Davis, California

**New USDA Building Opens!**    See inside cover



## CONTENTS

|                                       |   |  |    |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|----|
| New USDA Building Opens .....         | 2 | Clean Water Action Plan .....            | 6  |
| Humiston Moves Up .....               | 3 | Thomas Gains Top Post .....              | 7  |
| Conservation BBQ .....                | 4 | Loss of a Lifelong Conservationist ..... | 7  |
| First Day on the Job .....            | 4 | Urban Resources Partnership .....        | 8  |
| BISS Assists Farmers .....            | 5 | Personnel Changes .....                  | 10 |
| Assistance for Higher Education ..... | 5 |  |    |

# USDA Building Opens in Davis!

*By Dave Sanden, Writer-Editor, Davis SO*

On October 16, Agriculture Secretary **Dan Glickman** and other dignitaries gathered at 5th and G Street in Davis to dedicate the recently completed Richard E. Lyng USDA Building.

**Richard Lyng** himself was on hand to unveil the plaque dedicating the building. Lyng is the only Californian to serve as U.S. Secretary of Agriculture. Other dignitaries who shared in the celebration included Deputy Secretary of Agriculture **Richard Rominger**, Congressman **Vic Fazio**, Davis Mayor **Julie Partansky**, and UC Davis Chancellor **Larry Vanderhoef**.

USDA agencies started moving into the building in early November. Agencies sharing the facility include: the Natural Resources Conservation Service, State and Western Region Headquarters; Farm Service Agency, State Headquarters; Rural Development, State Headquarters; Risk Management Agency (two divisions); Agricultural Research Service; Office of Inspector General; Grain Inspection and Packers Stockyard Administration; and Food Safety Inspection Service. Approximately 225 employees will work in the new building.

Collocation of the various agencies in one building provides better customer service. The joint housing is also increasing interagency efficiency by providing shared communication and computer systems, administrative staff, vehicles, equipment, and employee facilities.

The Richard E. Lyng Building is the first building in the Nation that USDA planned and erected for the purpose of bringing agencies together on a statewide basis. The building, constructed by Unger Construction Company at a cost of \$15 million, contains 66,000 square feet and more than 40 miles of communication network cabling.



Above, the Richard E. Lyng Building is officially opened. From left to right are Congressman Vic Fazio, former Secretary of Agriculture Richard Lyng, Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman, and California Department of Food and Agriculture Director Ann Veneman.

Below, Secretary Glickman with some of the local 4-H members who participated in the dedication festivities.



Questions, comments, and contributions may be forwarded to: Current Developments, NRCS Office of Public Affairs, 430 G Street, Davis, California 95616. Call (530) 792-5644 or fax (530) 792-5791.

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## CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS STAFF

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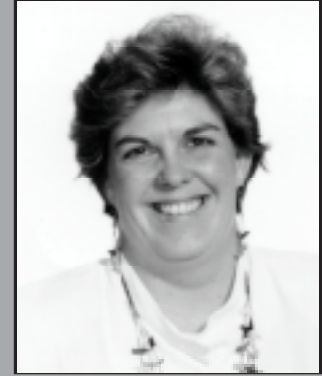
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*Editorial Assistance: Amanda Menefee and Dave Sanden*

*Photocopying: Jon Jay*

# HUMISTON NAMED DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY FOR NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT TO OVERSEE CONSERVATION ISSUES



*By Amanda Menefee, Public Affairs SCEP*

Agriculture Secretary **Dan Glickman** announced on July 30, 1998 that he had appointed **Glenda L. Humiston** deputy under secretary for natural resources and environment. She will oversee the programs and activities of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service.

"Over the past 11 years Glenda has played a significant role in public policy development, advocating both sustainable natural resources management and sound agricultural practices throughout California," said Glickman.

"Glenda has a wealth of on-the-ground conservation experience," said Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment **Jim Lyons**. "Having worked with Glenda during her tenure as president of the California Association of Resource Conservation Districts, I know that she is a strong advocate for conservation districts and a powerful voice for locally-led conservation efforts. Her leadership in California agriculture will make her an strong addition to our natural resources team."

Since 1992 Humiston served as the senior partner of AGvocate, a natural resources and agricultural consulting firm based in

Sonoma County, California, that specializes in organizing citizen participation in public policy decision-making. She also served as the president of the California Association of Resource Conservation Districts since November 1996.

From 1990 to 1992 Humiston was the executive director of the Sonoma County Farmlands Group, that administered marketing, educational, and public policy programs designed to preserve farmlands and stimulate agricultural economic growth.

From 1984 to 1986 Humiston served as a volunteer in the U.S. Peace Corps, working as an agricultural management specialist in Tunisia, North Africa.

A native of Mancos, Colorado, Humiston holds a B.S. degree in animal science and agriculture from Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colorado, and an M.S. degree in international agricultural development from the University of California, in Davis.

She also holds professional certification in environment and land use planning, and completed a two-year fellowship with the California Agricultural Leadership Program.

# FAZIO AND DUNN ATTEND BARBEQUE

*Willows Journal*



Third district democratic congressional candidate **Sandie Dunn** and retiring Congressman **Vic Fazio** took time out to attend a barbeque recently in Elk Creek. The ranch-style outdoor dinner at the 4-M Ranch is an annual get-together held by the Glenn County Resource Conservation District to say thanks to the people who are partners in the conservation movement. Joining Fazio and Dunn among the 100 guests were **Tom Wehri**, Executive Director of the California Association of Conservation Districts; **Marilyn Cundiff**, Wildlife Conservation Board; **Ed Romano**, Glenn County Ag Commissioner; **Skip Sievertsen**, Army Corps of Engineers; **Lin Brooks**, Area Conservationist for Natural Resource Conservation Service; **Dave Patterson**, California Waterfowl Association plus a host of city and county officials from the area.



## ***First Day on the Job***

He had no sooner finished introducing himself to the NRCS staff at the Davis office than **Jeff Vonk** (right), new California State Conservationist, was put to work handing out U.S.D.A. Honor Awards.

**Lin Brooks**, left, Area Conservationist for Red Bluff, received an award for his part of the Emergency Watershed Project following the California floods of January 1997.



# BISS and Southeast Asian Farmers

*By Elizabeth Chavez*

Southeast Asian growers in the San Joaquin Valley are getting assistance for their strawberry farms through the Biologically Integrated Strawberry Systems (BISS) program. BISS demonstrates environmentally friendly methods and profitable production of strawberries in California's San Joaquin Valley and is tailored to the needs of the Southeast Asian farmers.

Soil Conservation Technician **Chu Yang** said, "It is very important we understand the culture and language needs of the Southeast Asian farmers." Two years ago, 524 acres of strawberries were harvested, thus adding more than \$5 million to California's agricultural economy; a large percentage of those acres were operated by Southeast Asian farmers. First generation families, whose spoken and written English skills are quite limited, are usually the ones who carry out strawberry production. With such limited understanding of the language, complexities of agricultural chemicals present a substantial obstacle. "We are helping the Southeast Asian



farmers with bilingual fact sheets to inform them of the importance and dangers of chemicals they come in contact with," Yang continued.

In addition, Earth Team Volunteers from California State University at Fresno team up every Friday with Chu Yang and

**Carolyn Watson** to conduct studies of the strawberry farms. They monitor BISS fields for mites, mold, and pathogens. They also measure soil for nitrogen content and to inform farmers of an alternative to methyl bromide.

## Eight Gain Assistance Towards Higher Education

**"Congratulations! You have been selected to receive a grant through the FY 1999 Education Grants Program...."** Eight USDA employees were greeted with those words in a letter last July, making them eligible to receive support for higher educational plans. Intentions for the monies ranged from Phuc Vu's plans to take Spanish classes to improve his communication skills with Spanish language-speaking farmers in the Salinas area, to Hue Dang's plans to gain proficiency with range management and restoration. The following employees were selected: **Terry Bailey**, Program Assistant; **Hue Dang**, Soil Conservationist; **Michael House**, Editorial Assistant; **Linda Hughes**, Range Conservationist; **Stephanie Litman**, Agricultural Engineer; **Deanna Rolewicz**, Program Assistant; **Thomas Share**, Civil Engineering Technician; and **Phuc H. Vu**, Civil Engineer.

# The Clean Water Action Plan

**A renewed aggressive approach to ensuring clean and safe water for all Americans.**

*By Andrea Louie, WPS Intern, Davis, CA*

In early August, California released its Draft Unified Watershed Assessment for public comment. The Draft Assessment categorizes California's watersheds into one of four categories: I) watersheds needing restoration, II) watersheds meeting water quality and other natural resource goals, III) watersheds with significant government lands needing protection, and IV) watersheds where more information is needed in order to categorize. In addition, priorities were established for Category I watersheds. These priority watersheds will be targeted for potential new funds in FY 1999.

The Unified Watershed Assessment is one of the key actions in the Clean Water Action Plan. The Clean Water Action Plan is a revision of the Clean Water Act which was enacted in 1972 to prevent widespread pollution of rivers, lakes, and coastal waters. The Clean Water Act was very successful at improving water problems, however, 40% of the waters still remain too polluted to fish or swim in, and half of the nation's 2,000 watersheds do not meet clean water goals.

The Action Plan was released by Vice President Gore on February 19, 1998 and calls for a collaborative effort between federal, state, tribal, and local governments to restore and protect water quality. Federal Agencies will provide the public with access to information about water quality issues and are responsible for developing the framework for the Action Plan. State and tribal governments with the help of federal and local organizations will develop lists of impaired water bodies and prioritize areas that need to be protected, and local governments will take leadership roles in gaining local support to protect and restore their watershed.

Together, the groups will design the Plan around four key tools to achieve clean water.

1. A watershed approach that encourages efforts to control and prevent sources of pollution from flowing in the watershed and harming it.
2. Strong federal and state programs that protect water and set up standards where water quality is poor.
3. A natural resources stewardship that develops incentives for landowners to implement pollution prevention programs.
4. Informed citizens and officials who provide support to restore impaired watersheds at the local level.

Several actions have already been completed for the Action Plan. These are the Beach Watch Program, Animal Feeding Operation Strategy (AFO), Nutrient Assessment Strategy, State Coastal Polluted Runoff Control Programs, Contaminated Sediment Management Strategy, and a plan for Wetland Status and Trends Reporting.

*The Draft Assessment is available on the web at <http://www.ca.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/cwap.html>. Questions can be directed to Diane Holcomb, NRCS Watershed Planning Services at (530) 792-5667.*

# DONNA THOMAS

## GAINS TOP POST

*By Amanda Menefee, Public Affairs SCEP*

On August 6, the California Association of Resource Conservation Districts (CARCD) announced that **Donna Thomas** would take over as their new President.

“My first plan is to carry out the plans begun by **Glenda Humiston**, one of which is to strengthen and solidify the process for area boundaries,” said Thomas.

“I will promote Resource Conservation Districts and their activities wherever and whenever possible,” she continued, “because I believe strongly in the effectiveness of their grassroots approach. I also believe RCDs have an important role in expanding partnerships to address natural resource issues around the state. Collaboration and partnership efforts in community-based conservation approaches are vital to achieving results ‘on the ground’.”

Thomas brings valuable experience to the job. She served as Vice President of CARCD from 1996-1998, and has

been a director of Eastern Kern County RCD since 1991, where she’s helped to write many grants. Thomas volunteered with the Sand Canyon Environmental Education Program (SEEP) on fundraising and volunteer recognition, amongst other things. A teacher by training, Thomas taught English and history to students at Berkeley Junior High School in Berkeley, MO, as well as to those at Murray Junior High School in China Lake, CA.

Thomas received her M.A. Degree in English Literature from the University of Colorado at Boulder. Her B.S. Degree in secondary education came from Southeast Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau, Missouri, with majors in English and history and minors in social science and biology.



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## HENRY DELP

### CONSERVATIONIST AND TIRELESS CHARITY WORKER

*By Walt Wiley, Bee Staff Writer*

**Henry Peter Delp, Sr.** was a lifelong conservationist and a man whose work only increased when he retired and was able to devote his all to charity work, his family recalled. Mr. Delp died of congestive heart failure Tuesday at St. John’s Retirement Village in Woodland. He was 83.

“Our mother used to joke that dad really retired in 1953 when he quit farming and went to work for the government, but he was a man who worked hard every day of his life,” said Delp’s son, Henry Delp, Jr.

Delp and his wife (of nearly 60 years), Elsa, had a successful farm in Oklahoma, but decided in 1948 to come to California to look for better irrigation and

weather. The Grade-A dairy they set up in Yolo County near Madison had one of the first walk-through milking parlors in the area, his son recalled.

In 1953, Delp rented out the farm and went to work as an engineering aide for the Soil Conservation Service, following a tradition of teaching conservation that he had learned from his grandfather.

“The Germans had a tradition of saving the soil, terracing, building little dams and that’s what he loved to do,” Delp’s son continued. “He helped farmers build more than a dozen small dams back in the hills of western Yolo County.”

# SAN FRANCISCO MAYOR HELPS INAUGURATE URBAN RESOURCES PARTNERSHIP AT THIRD STREET FAIRE

*By Lisa A. Hokholt, Team Leader  
San Francisco Urban Office*



Willie Brown expands his mayoral duties as official irrigator in a ceremony to launch the Urban Resources Partnership in San Francisco. Urban Team Leader Lisa Hokholt looks on.

*Photo by Emmett Cartier*

Wielding a watering can and serving as official irrigator, **Mayor Willie L. Brown** watered a freshly planted herb garden in a ceremony that officially launched the Urban Resources Partnership (SF-URP) in San Francisco. Just moments before, SF-URP steering committee members and community leaders from the Bayview-Hunters Point area of southeast San Francisco each planted a fragrant and healthy herb seedling in a terra cotta windowbox container. All this took place during the second successful day of the First Annual Third Street Faire, hosted by the Sojourner Truth Foster Family Agency and co-sponsored by SF-URP.

The ceremonial planting of herb seedlings of different varieties, symbolized the unique contributions of the many SF-URP partners in achieving a better urban community

through natural resource management improvements and community stewardship. Mayor Brown showed enthusiasm for his duties in a ceremony he described as really different and one that he thoroughly enjoyed.

"A mere ribbon-cutting ceremony just wouldn't have had the impact we were looking for," explained San Francisco Urban Team Leader **Lisa Hokholt**. The herb garden planting, with its components of soil, edible plants, fertilizer, and water, represented the many collective contributions that result in healthier, greener, and more sustainable communities. After welcoming the Mayor and introducing SF-URP steering committee members, SF-URP coordinator Kim Rodgers began the ceremony by describing SF-URP's mission of promoting effective partnerships that protect



NRCS Team Leader Lisa Hokholt (lower left) joins Mayor Willie Brown in the festivities at a party commemorating the overwhelming success of the First Annual Third Street Faire.

*Photo by Terry Huff*





"Children's Environmental Activities" area at the First Annual Third Street Faire. More than 300 youngsters took home a flower or vegetable they had planted.

Photo by Emmett Cartier

and enhance the natural resources of San Francisco's urban ecosystem. Official planters included SF-URP steering committee members Lisa Hokholt, **Sonia Tamez** of the U.S. Forest Service, and **Mohammed Nuru** of the San Francisco League of Urban Gardeners. Other official planters included **Yolanda Harris** of the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services, and **Shirley Howard Johnson** and **Alma Jackson** of the Sojourner Truth Agency.

Herb seedlings were also planted on behalf of steering committee representatives from Trust for Public Land (TPL), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program of the National Park Service (NPS). All this took place in the shady SF-URP information booth located in the "Environment" section of the Faire.

Following the ceremony, Hokholt helped escort the Mayor to the "Children's Environmental Activities" area where she helped a youngster demonstrate the technique of planting a flower seedling while the Mayor and several Faire participants looked on. Each

young person who planted a seedling at the Faire was given the plant to take home to help beautify and protect their own little corner of San Francisco.

All this was possible through SF-URP's first-ever grant project. The original plan for the Third Street Faire included two continuous stages of live entertainment, food and craft vendors, and community public service information booths, a variety of children's activities, as well as its own booth where information about the first year's grants and technical assistance program was provided. The first year's program includes funds from NRCS, USFS, NPS, and EPA, totaling about \$270, 000. These funds will be used to provide grants for local conservation and environmental awareness and stewardship projects in the communities of southeast San Francisco.

During a formal on-stage presentation, Mayor Brown pledged his support for next year's Third Street Faire. "This is a tremendous effort and it represents a quality that we seldom if ever see in our community. I'm glad. I'm just glad that we're doing it, and we're doing it together." SF-URP couldn't have said it better.



NRCS Team Leader Lisa Hokholt helps a youngster demonstrate proper planting technique to San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown.

Photo by Emmett Cartier

# PERSONNEL CHANGES

| <u>NAME</u>       | <u>POSITION</u>      | <u>ACTION</u>           | <u>GRADE</u> | <u>LOCATION</u> | <u>DATE</u> |
|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Kem, S.           | Soil Cons Aid        | STEP Appt<br>NTE 1 year | GS-03        | Fresno AO       | 6/09/98     |
| Banister, K.      | Soil Cons. Tech      | Summer Intern           | GS-04        | Yosemite SSO    | 7/05/98     |
| Dang, H           | Soil Conservationist | Promotion               | GS-11        | Willows FO      | 7/05/98     |
| Ennor, J.         | St. Tr. Soil Cons.   | SCEP Appt               | GS-04        | Hanford SSO     | 7/05/98     |
| Flores, Gary      | Soil Cons. Tech      | Temp Appt               | GS-04        | Stockton FO     | 7/05/98     |
| Fullen, K.        | Soil Conservationist | Promotion               | GS-09        | Fresno FO       | 7/05/98     |
| Lake, Paul        | Project Leader       | Temp. Promotion         | GS-11        | Lake Tahoe      | 7/05/98     |
| Lau, Jolene       | Public Affairs Spec  | Reassignment            | GS-07        | Davis SO        | 7/05/98     |
| McCarthy, M.      | Soil Cons. Tech      | Temp Appt               | GS-04        | So. Lake Tahoe  | 7/05/98     |
| Stanley, Dawn     | Soil Cons. Aid       | Temp Appt               | GS-02        | Red Bluff AO    | 7/05/98     |
| Young, Allyson    | St. Tr. Soil Cons.   | SCEP Appt               | GS-04        | Redlands FO     | 7/05/98     |
| Flores, Carlos    | Soil Cons. Aid       | Temp Appt               | GS-03        | Bakersfield FO  | 7/07/98     |
| Turner, M.        | St. Tr. Soil Cons.   | SCEP Appt               | GS-04        | Weaverville FO  | 7/13/98     |
| Rose, C.          | Soil Cons. Tech      | Exp of appt             | GS-04        | Woodland FO     | 7/17/98     |
| Bettencourt, A.   | Soil Conservationist | Promotion & Conv.       | GS-07        | Grass Valley FO | 7/19/98     |
| Gustafson, J.     | Resource Cons.       | Career-Cond Appt        | GS-07        | Petaluma FO     | 7/19/98     |
| Joroski, C        | Soil Conservationist | Promotion               | GS-11        | Ukiah FO        | 7/19/98     |
| Martinez, M.      | Soil Cons. Aid       | Temp Appt               | GS-02        | Visalia FO      | 7/19/98     |
| Soria, A.         | St. Tr. Comp. Spec.  | Conv. To SCEP           | GS-03        | Information Sys | 7/19/98     |
| Umbach, Ed        | RC&D Coord           | Reassignment            | GS-12        | Riverside RC&D  | 7/19/98     |
| Santistevan, M.   | St. Tr. Soil Cons.   | SCEP Appt               | GS-05        | New Mexico      | 7/20/98     |
| Feliciano, Franci | Office Auto. Clerk   | Summer Intern           | GS-03        | Petaluma ASO    | 7/23/98     |
| Guerrero, G.      | Soil Conservationist | Emerg. Need 60 day      | GS-05        | Dixon FO        | 7/27/98     |
| Alderson, Jack    | Ag Engineer          | Career-Cond Appt        | GS-09        | Colusa FO       | 8/02/98     |
| Espinosa, P.      | Agronomist           | Reassignment            | GS-09        | Lockeford PMC   | 8/02/98     |
| Whan, Jon         | Ag Engineer          | Career-Cond Appt        | GS-07        | Bakersfield FO  | 8/02/98     |
| Auld, Christopher | Soil Cons. Tech      | Temp Appt               | GS-05        | Eureka FO       | 8/03/98     |
| Kahl, N.          | Bio Tech.            | Temp Appt               | GS-04        | F Urban         | 8/03/98     |
| Martin, A.        | Soil Cons. Tech      | Temp Appt               | GS-05        | Redlands FO     | 8/03/98     |
| Miles, T.         | Soil Cons. Aid       | Temp Appt               | GS-02        | Greenville FO   | 8/03/98     |

# PERSONNEL CHANGES

| <u>NAME</u>     | <u>POSITION</u>      | <u>ACTION</u>    | <u>GRADE</u> | <u>LOCATION</u> | <u>DATE</u> |
|-----------------|----------------------|------------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Groves, J.      | St. Trainee Bio      | SCEP Appt        | GS-05        | Salinas AO      | 8/10/98     |
| Hernandez, O.   | RC&D Coord.          | Reassignment     | GS-12        | Jackson RC&D    | 8/16/98     |
| William, J.     | Soil Conservationist | Career Promotion | GS-09        | Visalia FO      | 9/13/98     |
| Woodson, J.     | Soil Conserv Aid     | Temp Appt.       | GS-03        | Susanville FO   | 8/10/98     |
| Ennor, J.       | St Tr SS SCEP        | Reassignment     | GS-04        | Arcata SSO      | 8/16/98     |
| Chavez, E.      | St Tr PAS SCEP       | Reassignment     | GS-02        | Red Bluff AO    | 8/16/98     |
| Tran, Q.        | Ag Engineer          | Career-Cond Appt | GS-07        | Modesto FO      | 8/16/98     |
| Kehne, J.       | Dist Conserv.        | Promotion        | GS-12        | So. Lake Tahoe  | 8/30/98     |
| Collins, J.     | Resource Conserv.    | Career-Cond Appt | GS-07        | Modesto FO      | 8/30/98     |
| Ortiz, C.       | Program Analyst      | Reassignment     | GS-12        | Davis SO        | 8/16/98     |
| Krietemeyer, D. | Area Engineer        | Career Promotion | GS-12        | Fresno AO       | 8/30/98     |
| Kelly, G.       | St Tr Range Spec.    | Reassignment     | GS-04        | Arcata SSO      | 8/16/98     |
| Turner, M.      | St Tr Soil Conserv.  | Reassignment     | GS-04        | Arcata SSO      | 8/30/98     |
| Menefee, A.     | St Tr Public Aff.    | Resignation      | GS-05        | Davis SO        | 8/21/98     |
| Groves, J.      | St Tr Wldlf Biol.    | Reassignment     | GS-05        | Davis SO        | 9/27/98     |
| Sanchez, A.     | St Tr Soil Conserv   | Resignation      | GS-05        | Bakersfield FO  | 8/31/98     |
| Nelson, L.      | Admin. Asst.         | Resignation      | GS-06        | Davis SO        | 8/28/98     |
| Rocha, A.       | St Tr Soil Conserv   | Reassignment     | GS-04        | Fresno FO       | 8/16/98     |
| Toan, D.        | Ag Engineer          | Promotion        | GS-11        | Davis SO        | 09/14/98    |
| Velasquez, C.   | Ag Engineer          | Reassignment     | GS-11        | Davis SO        | 10/11/98    |
| Espinosa, P.    | Agronomist           | Promotion        | GS-11        | Lockeford PMC   | 10/11/98    |
| Huff, K.        | Soil Conserv Tech.   | Conv To STEP     | GS-04        | Soquel          | 10/01/98    |
| Bui, L.         | Visual Info Asst.    | Conv to STEP     | GS-04        | Davis SO        | 10/01/98    |
| Ryder, J.       | Native Am Liaison    | Promotion        | GS-11        | Fresno AO       | 10/11/98    |
| Coon, E.        | Admin Asst           | Temp Appt        | GS-05        | Davis SO        | 10/04/98    |
| Parson, M.      | Resource Conserv     | Reassignment     | GS-12        | Davis SO        | 11/08/98    |
| Bagwell, B.     | Soil Conserv Tech    | Term-exp of appt | GS-04        | Eureka FO       | 11/16/98    |
| Sanden, B.      | Contract Spec.       | Career Promotion | GS-09        | Davis SO        | 11/08/98    |
| Torres, J.      | St Tr Soil Conserv   | Resignation      | GS-04        | Escondido FO    | 10/28/98    |
| Padilla, J.     | Soil Conserv         | Career-Cond Appt | GS-07        | Bakersfield FO  | 11/22/98    |
| Higa, S.        | Dist Conserv         | Reassignment     | GS-12        | Alturas FO      | 12/20/98    |
| White, J.       | Ag Engineer          | Career-Cond Appt | GS-07        | Davis SO        | 10/25/98    |
| Gustafson, J.   | Range Conserv        | Reassignment     | GS-07        | Petaluma FO     | 12/06/98    |
| Mullowney, M    | St Tr Public Aff     | SCEP Appt        | GS-05        | Davis SO        | 11/08/98    |



## CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS *in California*

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U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
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